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### A TEN-PLATE STOVE

In the Museum's collection of early American iron work is an interesting ten-plate stove, in fine condition, bearing the name of the District Furnace, which was erected on Pine Creek, in District Township, Berks County, Pa., previous to 1784, at which time it was owned by John Leshner. The sides of the stove are embellished with the Arms of Pennsylvania in relief. On the front plate is a rendering of the American eagle with shield, while the back plate is decorated with the design of a graceful urn.

The age of the stove is somewhat uncertain, but it is probable that this type is of a late period, about the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Indeed, the attitude of the reclining horses in the State Arms would indicate the date of 1823, as that of manufacture. While the advent of ten-plate stoves in the latter half of the eighteenth century marked the beginning of the decadence of stove making in Pennsylvania, the one here shown is perhaps one of the handsomest of its kind that has yet turned up. It is an excellent example of American iron work of nearly a century ago.



TEN-PLATE STOVE  
Early Nineteenth Century



### COLLECTION OF CHESSMEN

The best authorities agree that chess was invented about 600 A. D. in India. The Hindoos taught the game to the Persians, but the Arabs who captured Persia were the real lovers of the game and in their Asiatic and European invasions they taught the game to the civilized world.

The Koran prohibited the followers of the faith from representing animals, birds or man in decorations, carvings or manuscripts, so that they substituted in place of the ancient chess figures pieces carved in cylinder form. The group here shown belongs to an old India ivory set used by the followers of